Les Misérables

While reading

Chapters 1–3

1 Who …
   a slept nineteen years on a piece of wood? ....................... 
   b was the Bishop of Digne’s servant? ........................... 
   c was afraid of a stranger in her town? ......................... 
   d was robbed of his silver? ................................. 
   e was a chimney sweep? ................................. 
   f had two little girls and managed an inn? .................... 
   g had to leave her daughter to find a job? .................... 

2 Number these sentences in the correct order.
   a Valjean decided to spend the night at the church. 
   b The Bishop of Digne gave two silver candle-sticks to Valjean as a present. 
   c Valjean felt very sad and cried. 
   d Valjean tried to give money to a priest. 
   e Valjean robbed a poor boy of the only coin he had. 
   f Jean Valjean ran into the countryside. 
   g The innkeeper of Digne refused to allow Valjean to stay at his inn. 

Chapters 4–6

3 Put these events in Chapter 4 the right order.
   a A big man with white hair carries Cosette’s bucket. 
   b Cosette stares at a beautiful doll on one of the stalls. 
   c Mme Thénardier demands the bread and then the coin. 
   d Mme Thénardier gives Cosette a coin to buy bread. 
   e Cosette runs down the hill into the frightening darkness. 
   f The coin drops into the stream. 
   g The stranger pretends to find the coin on the floor. 

4 Write the sentence from the text that proves these sentences are false.
   a When Cosette woke up at Valjean’s place she knew where she was. 
   b When Valjean discovered that Javert knew where he lived he decided not to leave his home. 
   c When Cosette and Valjean escaped they were not followed by anybody. 

5 Match and complete the sentences.
   a When M. Gillenormand found out what Marius was doing … 
   b Marius had promised his father … 
   c Marius liked walking around … 
   d Enjolras called Valjean M. Leblanc … 
   e Sometimes M. Leblanc took his daughter to another bench … 
   f The handkerchief that Cosette had dropped … 
   i … he ordered him to leave his house. 
   ii … to see if Marius would follow them. 
   iii … had the initials ‘U.F.’ written on it. 
   iv … the Luxembourg Gardens. 
   v … that he would find the man who saved his life and help him. 
   vi … because of his white hair. 

Chapters 7–8

6 Underline the mistakes in the sentences and correct them.
   a The sixteen-year-old girl who visited Marius brought him some food. 
   b When Marius saw a triangular hole on the wall of his house, he covered it. 
   c While the Jondrettes waited for the old man to come to their home, they put out the fire and cleaned the house. 
   d When Marius saw the old man and the young lady enter the Jondrettes home, he realized they were strangers. 

7 Cosette writes in her diary what has happened to her ever since she met Marius. Finish the sentences.
   a When I saw the large stone in the garden, I picked it up and I saw … 
   b After I read the poems I thought of … 
   c I was comfortably sitting on the bench when I suddenly looked round and … 
   d After I told him that I loved him we …
Les Misérables

Chapters 9–12
8 Guess: Who says these things, who are they talking to, and what are they talking about?
   a. ‘You are a fool.’
   b. ‘Well then, I imagine the lucky girl must have money.’
   c. ‘I shall ask no more favours of you, Monsieur. Goodbye.’
   d. ‘Your friends are waiting for you at the barricade in the rue the Chanvrerie.’
   e. ‘You’ll be shot in two minutes before the barricades fall.’
   f. ‘A soldier was going to shoot you.’
   g. ‘She’s going to leave me.’

9 Are these true (T) or false (F)?
   a. When Valjean read Marius’s letter to Cosette he felt happy at first but then he decided to help the young man. [□]
   b. At the barricades, it was decided that married men should leave. [□]
   c. When the soldiers started shooting the rebels at the barricades, Javert was not tied to the post any longer. [□]
   d. Valjean pretended to want to kill Inspector Valjean in order to save him. [□]
   e. Javert was happy that Valjean did not kill him. [□]
   f. When Marius and Enjolras were fighting off the soldiers, Marius was shot in the leg. [□]
   g. When the soldiers entered the wine-shop, they killed everyone but Enjolras. [□]

10 Match and complete the sentences.
   a. In the spring of 1832, the people of Paris …
   b. General Lamarque had been popular with the people because of …
   c. The rebels brought things with them such as …
   d. When the rebels found that Javert was a police inspector …
   e. When Marius saw the soldier attacking Enjolras …

Chapters 13–15
11 Finish the sentences.
   a. Valjean searched Marius’s pockets and found …
   b. After Inspector Javert saw Marius and Valjean …
   c. When M. Gillenormand first saw Marius, he thought that …
   d. The doctor said that Marius’s wound to his body …
   e. As Marius lay dying …
   i. … a letter with his grandfather’s address.
   ii. … he repeated the name ‘Cosette’.
   iii. … was not serious but the cuts were deep.
   iv. … he was dead.
   v. … he helped them get to Marius’s old home.

12 Underline the mistakes in the sentences and correct them.
   a. When Marius told his grandfather that he wanted to marry Cosette, M. Gillenormand again did not allow him to do so.
   b. When Cosette and Marius were left alone she started crying.
   c. The money Valjean gave to Cosette belonged to a stranger.
   d. What Marius had found out about M. Thénardier was that Mme Thénardier had died and that M. Thénardier had escaped with his two daughters.
   e. The day Marius and Cosette got married, M. Gillenormand left early.

After reading
13 Change the ending.
Do you like the ending? What changes would you suggest? Write a new paragraph to put an end to the story.
Les Misérables

Chapters 1–3

1 Correct the mistakes in these sentences.
   a Jean Valjean was never helped by anybody because he had spent a long time in prison.
   b The bishop told Valjean that he had bought his soul from the devil and kept it.
   c The Thénardiers agreed to look after Cosette without asking for anything from Fantine.
   d Cosette had the Thénardier daughters for her companions.
   e Javert did not take Fantine to prison because she begged him not to.

Chapters 4–6

2 Write true (✓), false (✗) or it does not say (?)
   a Cosette was amazed by a doll. ❏
   b Valjean could not stay at the Thénardier’s inn because he did not have enough money. ❏
   c Thanks to Cosette, Valjean discovered love. ❏
   d Valjean thought that the beggar looked like Inspector Javert. ❏
   e George Pontmercy’s wife died of pneumonia. ❏

3 Choose the right sentence.
   a When Marius went back to the Luxembourg Gardens after six months …
      i he was amazed by how beautiful Cosette had become. ❏
      ii he did not realize that Cosette was the same girl who used to go to the park. ❏
   b When Cosette gazed at Marius …
      i he felt strange. ❏
      ii he trembled from head to foot. ❏
   c When Marius found the handkerchief with the initials ‘U.F.’ …
      i he thought her name was Ulla. ❏
      ii he thought her name was Ursula. ❏

Chapters 7–8

4 Choose the right words.
   a When Marius realized that the girls had dropped the package he picked it up and later on opened it / he gave it to the police. ❏
   b Marius’s neighbour wanted to show him how she could write and she wrote ‘leave the room now’ / ‘be careful the police are coming’. ❏
   c Javert gave Marius two guns and told him that if anything went wrong he should shoot one of the guns / he should shoot both of them. ❏

5 Complete with the correct word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>barricades</th>
<th>aristocracy</th>
<th>blot</th>
<th>cannons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>coffin</td>
<td>stronghold</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a Charles X was not very popular because he favoured the …………….. . ❏

b When Marius reached the ……………….. the soldiers were already climbing the ……………….. . ❏

c The soldiers wanted to defeat the rebels so they started firing their ……………….. . ❏

d Cosette forgot to remove the page she had used to ……………….. the letter she had written. ❏

e When General Lamarque died, the soldiers accompanied his ……………….. . ❏

Chapters 9–12

6 Write true (✓) or false (✗).
   a M. Gillenormand was happy to see his son after so long. ❏
   b Marius hated his grandfather for insulting his father and his future wife. ❏
   c When Marius received Cosette’s letter he decided to run after her. ❏
   d Marius wrote a letter for Cosette and gave it to a young boy to deliver to her. ❏
   e Valjean was very jealous of the young man in the Luxembourg Gardens but he decided to help him anyway. ❏
   f Jean Valjean disguised himself as a rebel in order to help Marius. ❏

Chapters 13–15

7 Write right (✓) or wrong (✗).
   a When Marius was shot, Valjean helped him. ❏
   b Valjean and Marius escaped through the Paris sewers. ❏
   c Marius was out of danger but he could not remember who had saved him from death. ❏
   d Marius was told that the old man who visited him every day was Valjean. ❏
   e In order to help Cosette, Valjean told everybody that he was her father. ❏